# The Augusta Coin Club Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the Month at the Augusta Public Library on Telfair & 9th Sts.

# The Augusta Coin Club since 1959

Pres. Steven Nix 1<sup>st</sup> V.P. Glenn Sanders 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. Howard Black Sec. John T. Attaway **Treas. Elaine Attaway** Sgt. in Arms: Bryan Hoyt and Joe Bert



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THE AUGUSTA COIN CLUB MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

November, 2014

# Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 20 from 6:30 to 8:45 PM

# Fall Show, Nov. 21 & 22 at Columbia Expo Center Sold Out

# **Club Meeting Calendar for 2014**

| Jan. 16 | May 15  | Sep. 18 |
|---------|---------|---------|
| Feb. 20 | June 19 | Oct. 16 |
| Mar. 20 | July 17 | Nov. 20 |
| Apr. 17 | Aug. 21 | Dec. 18 |

#### **Shows Help to Sustain Club**



Attendance at last May's show was the best in four years

On Nov. 21 & 22, Fri. & Sat. our club will host its Coin and Paper Money show for the second time at the Columbia Exposition Center located in Grovetown just off Exit 190 of I-20. Westbound drivers should make a left off I-20 at the Exit 190 ramp, then another left on to Gateway B'lvd. The Convention center is located at 212 Partnership Road on the right off Gateway B'lvd about a quarter of a mile further. From Thomson or points west, make a right off the I-20 exit ramp light, then a left at Gateway B'lvd. Hours are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM both days. Admission is free. The bourse room is spacious and well lit and holds up to 48 tables, all of which have been sold. Raffle tickets for the show offer five prizes with the 1st prize being a gold coin. You can purchase one ticket for \$1.00 or six for \$5.00. Members, who have sold raffle tickets please bring in the stubs with the donor's name and phone number prior to 3:00 PM on Saturday. The drawing will be held on Saturday at 4:00 but one does not have to be present to win.

#### A Reflection of My Summer Seminar 2014 Experience By Shelby Plooster



As a young numismatist, I had the opportunity to attend the 2014 Summer Seminar that is put on by the American Numismatic Association in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The summer seminar has provided me with a better appreciation and understanding of coin collecting, lasting memories, friendships, as well as, an amazing trip to beautiful Colorado.

I attended session of the seminar, and I took United States Grading Part 1. I incredibly had three knowledgeable instructors, Don Bonser, Matt Kleinsteuber, and Steve Roach. The class provided me with a better understanding of grading and other techniques that have improved my grading skills. The amount of knowledge that I received in that one week, has proved to be incredibly beneficial The class was very to me. detailed and informative. I even passed my test with flying colors!



At the Seminar, I met many new friends that enjoy numismatics as well. This has been so special to me because I had never met that many other young numismatists before. It's amazing the amount of knowledge that I received from the other young numismatists there, because not everyone collects the same things.

# A Reflection of My Summer Seminar 2014 Experience (Continued from page 1, column 2)



Some of the other young numismatists collect ancient coins, foreign coins, tokens, United States Coins, and many other different types of coins.

I made so many great memories, whether it was at the dorm, in the class, or across a dinner table. This experience has given me a new outlook on coin collecting, because I realize how many different parts there are. It made me rethink my collecting techniques and made me consider expanding my collection into other areas as well.

The Seminar gives us a chance to do extra activities outside of our regular class. I toured the Denver Mint, attended mini seminars at night, and I even participated in a metal detecting trip.



In front of a Denver Mint Exhibit

The metal detecting class was taught by the stars, George Wyant and Tim Saylor, of the TV show, "Diggers" on National Geographic. The Denver Mint was very fascinating. It helped me to understand how our coins are produced. The mini seminars were a great addition. The metal detecting class was a blast! I learned so much and was so inspired, that I bought my own metal detecting gear as soon as I got home.



**Metal Detecting in Colorado Springs** 

The opportunity to go to Colorado was thrilling for me, because it is a beautiful state full of tall mountains, snowcapped peaks, and sunny skies. The college campus was also very nice. I really enjoyed staying in the dorm with the other students, going shopping at the ANA bookstore, and even playing pool at night with the other young numismatists.

I am so thankful for the SCNA for giving me the scholarship. Without the SCNA, I wouldn't have had the chance to experience the Summer Seminar. My love for coin collecting has just increased since going to the Summer Seminar. I really enjoy coin collecting and the SCNA is the reason that any of this was possible.



The ANA Summer Seminar is held at Colorado College In Colorado Springs, CO

Shelby Plooster is a contributing member of the Augusta Coin Club. She was awarded a scholarship by the South Carolina Numismatic Association to attend the 2014 American Numismatic Association Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs. The article first appeared in the October, 2014 issue of *the SCanner*, quarterly journal of the SCNA.

# Collecting Transitional date sub-types Are both challenging and rewarding Part one of a series

By Arno Safran



A 1917-D Walking Liberty Half-Dollar graded MS-65 by PCGS
Mint-mark on obverse variety

By definition, a transitional date pairs two different design types within the same denomination having the same date such as the 1938-D Buffalo and Jefferson nickels. That pairing is relatively easy to acquire in as high a grade as MS-65. Not all transitional date pairings are that common. Try matching the 1916 Barber Quarter (Mintage 1,788,000) with a 1916 Standing Liberty, (mintage, just 52,000). In Good-4, the 2015 *Red Book* lists the Standing Liberty 25c at \$2,600 compared with only \$9.00 for the 1916 Barber quarter.

Advanced collectors also like the challenge of acquiring transitional date sub-types. These represent samedate pairings with more subtle differences such as coins with the same obverse but different reverse or more minor alterations such as with stars, no stars, with drapery, no drapery, with arrows, no arrows, open 3, closed 3 along with the different placements of the mint mark.

In 1917, there were two transitional sub-types; the more common being the Type I and Type II Standing Liberty quarters. That same year however, a more subtle transitional sub-type occurred regarding the Walking Liberty Half-dollar.

Above is pictured the 1917-D Walking Liberty half dollar with the mint mark on the obverse. If one magnifies the image, you can make it out directly under the motto IN GOD WE TRUST. One may wonder why the mintmark was placed on the obverse of the 50c coin in the first place. The last time this occurred was back in 1839 during the second year of the New Orleans Mint's operation when the O mint mark appeared on the obverse of the Reeded Edge half dollar.

The writer suggests that the precedent for placing the mint mark on the WL half in 1916 may have been begun seven years earlier in 1909 with the release of the Lincoln cent. In 1908 and again in the first part of 1909, the San Francisco mint issued the Indian Head Cent with the S mintmark under the wreath on the reverse. Later in 1909 when the Lincoln cent was released the new bronze cent was struck at all three mints, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Denver (opened in 1906) with the D and S mint-marks appearing on the obverse.

Upon reviewing the WL Half dollar during the early part of February, 1917, Mint Director F. J. H. von Engelken decided to have the mint-mark removed from the obverse to the reverse because it appeared to him as a die defect.



A 1917-D Walking Liberty Half-dollar graded AU-50 by PCGS
Mint-mark on reverse variety

Later in 1917, the mintmark was repositioned to the lower left portion of the reverse to the right of a sprig of leaves under the eagle's roosting spot and to the right of **HALF DOLLAR** in a depressed part of the coin (*where it would not be subject to wear*). In actually, the change produced even less clarification.

The reported mintage for the 1917-D *mintmark on obverse* WL half-dollar was 765,400 while the 1917-D *mintmark on the reverse* was 1,920,000. Based on those figures one would think that the shorter lived *mintmark on obverse* coin would be the more expensive but according to the 2015 *Red Book* this is only true through the grade of VF-20. From VF-35 and higher, the 1917-D *mintmark on reverse* with the far greater mintage becomes increasingly more expensive, especially in mint state. By AU-55 the PCGS retail guide lists the 1917-D *mintmark on reverse* WL half at \$300 higher than the *mintmark on obverse* in the same grade and by MS-63 the difference expands to \$1,800. The only explanation is that the mintmark on reverse specimens saw far greater circulation.

With respect to the 1917-S halves just the opposite is true. Despite higher mintages for the 1917-S halves, both versions surface less frequently than the 1917-Ds.



President Steven Nix announced at the September meeting that unless more members start acquiring our club medallions the project--after ten year run--will come to an end. Do you really want this to happen?

### **Augusta Coin Club Issues 2014 Medallion**



The 2014 ACC Medallion struck in copper (actual size)
Featuring the boyhood home of President Woodrow Wilson
[Enlarge to view details]

Shown above is the 2014 Augusta medallion struck in copper. Two other versions were also produced, one in Antique Bronze and another in silver-wash. The three together are priced at \$28 or \$10 each. The medallion portrays the boyhood home of our 28<sup>th</sup> US President Woodrow Wilson who was elected in 1912 and served two terms as our nation's chief executive. The Woodrow Wilson boyhood home represents the tenth CSRA landmark to appear on the ACC medallion begun in 2005.

Our coin club was incorporated in 1959 but it was actually founded four years earlier in 1955. In 2005 the Executive Board decided to strike a medallion in honor of the 50th anniversary of the club's founding. It was agreed that the medal should portray the club logo with the state of Georgia on the obverse and a historic CSRA landmark on the reverse. A contest was held and the winning entry was the Augusta Cotton Exchange. It was completed in 1886 and is located on Reynolds Street. The medallion was struck in antique bronze, antique copper and copper.



The 2005 ACC Medallion struck in antique bronze (actual size)
Featuring the Augusta Cotton Exchange in downtown Augusta
[Enlarge to view details]

Since 2005 the club has struck nine other medallions, the charge to members, its manufacturing cost. In 2009 and 2010, the club also coined .999 silver medallions with a different design. The program's continuance is up to you.

# AUGUSTA COIN CLUB, INC. MINUTES OF MEETING October 16, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Augusta Library by President, Steve Nix. We had 43 members and 6 guests: Zachary Goolsby, Richard Goolsby, Robert Passofero and Hano Passofero, R.J. Vero, Jr. and Ray May.

### **Secretary's Report:**

The September 18, 2014 minutes was read not read. A copy is kept on file.

## Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's Report from Elaine Attaway was read and approved. We have \$6,550.24 deposited in the checking account. Revenue was from the 50/50 drawing.

#### **Prize Winners:**

Winner of the 50/50 raffle was John Mason (\$66.00). Tom McBurney won a 2014 Silver Eagle and Brock Heise won a 1961-D Franklin Half Dollar.

#### Fall Coin Show Nov. 21 & 22, Fri. & Sat.

David Chism – Bourse Chairman. The Fall Augusta Coin Show will be held at Columbia County Exhibition Center located at the Grovetown Wal-Mart at Exit 190. David reports we had 32 tables sold and asked the membership to put out flyers and sell raffle tickets.

#### Program:

Steve Damron gave a Power Point presentation on English Hammered Coins. Steve went over English Coins and Rulers from Stephen of Blois 1135 to 1154 through to the House of Stuart 1603-1625.

#### Coin Token:

Our 2014 Augusta Coin Token will show the image of the Boyhood Home of Woodrow Wilson. Antique copper, antique bronze and silver wash, 3 types of metals: One for \$10.00 each or 3 for \$28.00.

#### **Old Business:**

We had 3 juniors draw for the junior box. A reminder that our newsletter **will not be mailed out** anymore. A hard copy will be available at our monthly meeting. Make sure we have your email address.

#### **Auction:**

Glenn Sanders ran the auction (11 members). Shelby Plooster and Mike Joesbury delivered the goods as the auction was carried on therefore speeding the auction up. Bids recorder was Connie Clayton.

# Respectively Submitted, John Thomas Attaway

#### Coin of the Month



A 1927-D Standing Liberty Quarter graded MS-64 by PCGS [Magnify page to view details.]

While the local club show may not attract as many dealers as a regional or state show will, attendance by club members can turn out to be extremely rewarding for the collector because one never knows what you are going to find unless you show up.

Back on May of 2012 I was browsing the bourse sat our local ACC show hoping to add another date to my Standing Liberty quarter collection when lo and behold, I came across a 1927-D specimen housed in a PCGS-64 holder at one of the dealer's tables. Although it would not be regarded as a full head example, the coin had good color and was fairly well struck without any unsightly blemishes. Furthermore, the 1927-D quarter was housed in PCGS-slab that featured a small green sticker with the letters CAC on it, an acronym for Certified Acceptance Corporation. That is supposed to imply that the original PCGS graders got it right the first time although the dealer who submitted the certified coin had to pay an additional fee to receive such a confirmation. At the Augusta Coin Club show the dealer priced the coin as a common date, but why? The mintage of the 1927-D quarter is only 976,000, the fourth lowest of the series (1916-1930) behind the scarce 1927-S with 396,000 and the key date 1916 with a scant 52,000. The 1918/7-S is the scarcest of them all although there are no reported mintage figures for that overdate.

According to J.H. Cline, Standing Liberty quarter dealer and author of Standing Liberty Quarters (*Fourth Edition*), the 1927-D appears in uncirculated grades far more frequently than one would expect from so low mintage coin although full head specimens are scarce. He believes either the mintage figures are in error or this date is a true "sleeper".



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